



Liturgical Guide – July 11, 2021



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

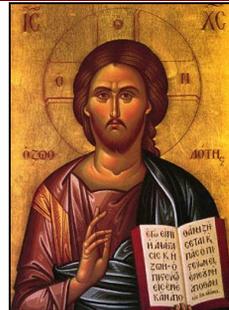
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlanta.goarch.org

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church



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Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, *Chancellor*

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, July 11, 2021

ON THIS DAY, THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, WE COMMEMORATE Euphemia the Great Martyr; The All-Praised Olga, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Princess of Kiev; Nektarios the New Martyr; Sophrony the Athonite of Essex; and Nicodemos the New Martyr of Mt. Athos. *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

Thank You for Your Understanding

We welcome our parishioners who are attending services in person today and we also welcome those who are viewing our online video streaming at home. Let us comply with the guidelines we have provided everyone. We appreciate your kind understanding in following them. Fr. George is

deeply appreciative to you and all who are assisting during worship services.

Please consider that only baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians in canonical good standing may approach for Holy Communion. All are invited to partake of the Antidoron ("instead of the gifts") distributed at the conclusion of today's Divine Liturgy.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Second Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.102-105):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: When You descended into death, Life immortal, You vanquished the power of hell by your resplendent divinity, and when You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You.

3. Hymn Commemorating St. Euphemia – (see handout):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. To the Orthodox you brought elation, to the heretics, humiliation, lovely virgin of Christ, St. Euphemia. For you confirmed what the Fathers decreed as true during the Fourth holy Council in Chalcedon. We entreat you now, O glorious Martyr, pray for us to Christ our God to grant us the great mercy.

4. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see handout):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. Made comely with garments woven from your venerable blood, you stand before the Lord, the King of Heaven and earth, O famed Martyr Christopher. With the choirs of Angels and the Martyrs you chant, singing the thrice-holy hymn and most awesome praises. Thus, by your intercessions with God, save us, your servants.

5. Kontakion – (Hymnal-pp.224-227):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: O unfailing protection of Christians, and our faithful advocate before the Creator: though we are sinners, do not ignore our entreaty; but in your goodness, grant your timely help to us who appeal to you in faith. Quickly

make intercession; on our behalf make speedy supplication, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY

The Scriptures were not given us for this only, that we might have them in books, but that we might engrave them on our hearts. – St. John Chrysostom

Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (Mark 16:9-20)

Now after He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons. She went out and told those who had been with Him, while they were mourning and weeping. But when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. After this He appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them. Later He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and He upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using My name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it. Amen.

Epistle Reading (2 Cor. 6:1-10)

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to

you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 6:22-33)

²²“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; ²³but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! ²⁴“No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. ⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe

you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.” (Matthew 9:13)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

“People were bringing little children to Him in order that He might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to Me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.”
(Mark 10:13-15)

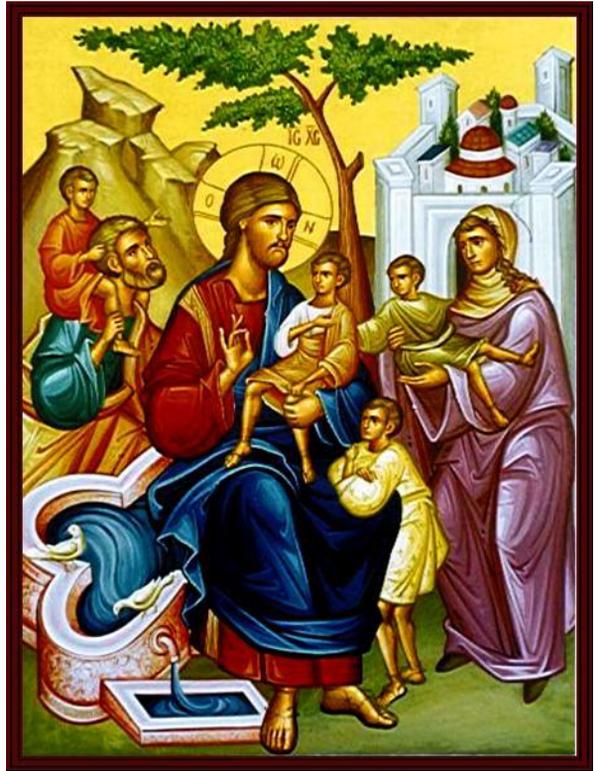
As sons and daughters of our Lord, Jesus Christ instructs us not to do anything to prevent our children – whether our babies or young children – from knowing the grace and power of Jesus! Even more than that, we must actively encourage and help the Lord's “little children” to find their place in Jesus’ family, have their needs fulfilled by Jesus' grace, and use their gifts as part of Jesus' Body.

Prayer for Our Parish Families in Support of Our Youth:

O Heavenly Father, thank You for our precious children. Please help me to never put off a child who needs to know Your love. Help me and use me, O Lord, to show all our youth Your love and help them grow in Your image and likeness to serve for your glory. May Your Holy Spirit guide me in my responsibilities with a spirit of love and mercy.

May all children live a life of love and share that love with those around them. May they always be strong and courageous in their

character and in their actions. Help them to do what is right and just and fair. Grant that they will learn responsibility, and help them to live a life of thankfulness. Give them health and strength and show them Your path. Take them into Your arms and bless them as You embraced children when You visited us on earth. Hear their prayers each day, and ever remind them that You are always with them. Make them sleep in peace and awaken in the morning to love You and serve You. For to You we give glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.





In July 2021:
Soldiers' Angels



Soldiers' Angels is an organization serving active-duty military and their families, as well as veterans of all eras. 538,355 people were served last year. It is one of the few charities approved to work in the VA hospitals in Georgia - the Atlanta VA and Dublin VA.

Your monetary donation of:

\$ 35 - can get a care package purchased, packed, and sent

\$ 50 - can provide gas assistance for transportation to appointments at VA hospitals

\$100 - can help a veteran put food on the table

\$500 - can purchase a laptop for a wounded warrior with hand or arm injuries, burns, paralysis, loss of sight or voice, amputation to help them maintain some independence, as well as stay connected with family, friends, and battle buddies. For more opportunities to volunteer virtually and in person, visit www.SoldiersAngels.org

*May No Soldier Go Unloved,
May No Soldier Walk Alone,
May No Soldier Be Forgotten,
Until They All Come Home.TM*

Faithfully,

Anna Andreeva Naydenova, "Hands of Love" Philoptochos Ministry Chair

You can donate to Hands Of Love by clicking here-

[Hands of Love | St. Christopher Philoptochos \(square.site\)](http://Hands of Love | St. Christopher Philoptochos (square.site))

 ["Follow" & Like"](#) **our Facebook page.** Check for updates and photos.

On this the 864th Sunday of our St. Christopher's parish community, we continue to thank each of you for your presence and support. Although it may seem like we are just a handful of men, women, and children, if we commit ourselves to serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we will experience the miracle of growth as the Holy Spirit brings others into His service to help us build His new church in the Peachtree City, Georgia area for the glory of God!

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE (CHECK WEB CALENDAR FOR MORE...)

Sunday, July 11 (Third Sunday of St. Matthew):

- 7:45 am** Orthros Service
- 9:00 am** Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service
- 10:30 am** Golf Classic Update Meeting
- 11:15 am** Parish Council Meeting

Congratulations to our Newlyweds & Their families...
William & Stephanie Roche, July 3, 2021, Annunciation Cathedral



Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!

St. Euphemia the Great Martyr – July 11, 2021

Today is one of the Feast Days of St. Euphemia the Great Martyr. “How the Feast of St. Euphemia on July 11th Came to be Celebrated at the Ecumenical Patriarchate is reprinted from www.johnsanidopoulos.com.

+Fr. George Tsahakis



In the Patriarchal Church of Saint George at the Phanar, by the south wall of the parecclesion of the Pammakaristos, placed on marble bases, are the caskets (larnax) with the holy relics of three female saints: Euphemia the Great Martyr, Solomone the mother of the Maccabees, and Theophano the first consort of the Emperor Leo VI the Wise. The casket of Saint Euphemia has a richly ornamented silver revetment. This relic has been in the Patriarchal Church since 1601.

A document preserved in the archives of the Patriarchate (Cod. A, 46) records that in the patriarchy of Gabriel III (1702-1707), notably on the 11th of July 1707 (1704 according to others), the Russian Ambassador to the Sublime Porte, the priest Peter Andreovich, donated a quantity of cypress wood for the fashioning of three caskets in which to deposit the sacred relics of the three holy women. These caskets were red and gold on the outside (the caskets today date to the 19th century). We are told that he did this as a blessing for the salvation of his own soul and for the eternal memory of his parents.

Because this took place on July 11th, on which day we commemorate the Miracle of Saint Euphemia at the Fourth Ecumenical Synod, Patriarch Gabriel II decreed “her feast day to be celebrated annually with a procession in the patriarchal church with her holy relics placed in the middle,” as stated in the apodeixis sent to the Christians of Constantinople (Cod. A, 25-26).